

Welcome to the Probate and Family Court Department of the Massachusetts Trial Court.

Many Probate and
Family Law matters
involve complex and
valuable legal rights.
You should always
speak with an attorney
before filing any papers.

LOOKING FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE?

This booklet contains a list of Lawyer Referral Services, Free Legal Resources and Legal Aid Agencies in

NORFOLK COUNTY

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES

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MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel.

Call (617) 654-0400 or (800) 392-6164 e-mail: lrs@massbar.org To register online visit www.massbar.org/lawhelp/

BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel. Serves mainly Greater Boston, inside Route 495, but will provide referrals throughout Massachusetts.

Call (617) 742-0625 or e-mail: lrs@bostonbar.org For more information, visit www.bostonbar.org/lrs/index

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORFOLK COUNTY

Referrals to private attorneys in Norfolk County. Also offers referrals to free attorneys through Pro Bono Attorney program. Call (617) 471-9693

National Lawyers Guild

14 Beacon Street, Suite 407

Boston, MA 02108

Serves Greater Boston. Lawyer referral service geared to low and moderate income clients, women and minority rights issues but will take any case. Spanish speaking staff available.

Call (617) 227-7008 Mon - Fri 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or leave a message.

LEGAL RESOURCES

The Massachusetts Trial Court provides free legal resources

Massachusetts Judicial Branch Web Site

The official web site of the Judicial Branch includes judicial profiles, addresses, phone numbers and directions for courthouses as well as other useful information about the Trial Court. Click on www.state.ma.us/courts

Norfolk Law Library

57 Providence Highway Norwood, MA 02062

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries are open to the public, providing legal reference services and legal research assistance. The library is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Ask at the Registry of Probate for the Law Libraries pamphlet which provides more details.

Call (781) 769-7483 or visit the Law Libraries web site www.lawlib.state.ma.us

Free resources offered by the Massachusetts and Norfolk Bar Associations

Tel-Law

Tel-Law is a collection of recorded messages provided by the Massachusetts Bar Association to answer basic questions about the law. Tel-Law is fully automated and you can access it 24 hours/day by calling (617) 338-0669. (Toll charges may apply)

WEB SITE

The Massachusetts Bar Association web site offers answers to basic legal questions. Point your browser to www.massbar.org

DIAL-A-LAWYER

The first Wednesday of every month you can get free legal help, by telephone, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Massachusetts Bar Association Lawyer volunteers staff phones to answer your questions. Call (617) 338-0610

Norfolk Legal Clinic

BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORFOLK COUNTY

Attorneys are available approximately once a month in Dedham or Quincy to offer free basic advice on various matters including family law. For more information, Call (617) 471-9693.

LEGAL SERVICE AGENCIES

are available
only to very
low income and
elderly
individuals

These resources

LEGAL ADVOCACY & RESOURCE CENTER

Provides telephone information, pro se assistance and referrals to legal service agencies. Intake hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Call (617) 603-1700

<u>Greater Boston Legal Services</u> 197 Friend Street, Boston, MA 02114

(800) 323-3205 or (617) 371-1234

Represents custodial parents in divorce, paternity, visitation, parental kidnapping, contested guardianships and contempts (with certain restrictions). Represents prospective guardians if parents do not object. Limited representation in DSS involved cases (with certain restrictions).

Serves Braintree, Brookline, Canton, Cohasset, Holbrook, Milton, Quincy, Randolph and Weymouth.

SOUTH MIDDLESEX LEGAL SERVICES

354 Waverly Street, Framingham, MA 01702 (508) 620-1830 or (800) 696-1501

Handles divorces for custodial parent or disabled parent. Domestic violence cases (209A restraining orders). Also has pro bono divorce panel of private attorneys.

Serves Bellingham, Dedham, Dover, Foxborough, Franklin, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Needham, Norfolk, Norwood, Plainville, Sharon, Sherborn, Walpole, Wellesley, Westwood and Wrentham. COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

AND COUNSELING CENTER

One West Street

Cambridge, MA 02139

(617) 661-1010

Will handle cases for victims of domestic violence or for primary caretakers in contested custody and visitation cases involving child abuse or neglect. Will also handle cases for custodial parent seeking child support.

Serves Brookline only.

New Center For Legal Advocacy 257 Union Street New Bedford, MA 02740 (800) 244-9023

Handles guardianships and family law cases with priority given to cases involving domestic abuse.

Serves Avon and Stoughton only.

Jewish Family Services - Bet Tzedek of Boston 1340 Centre Street Newton, MA 02459 (617) 558-1278

Provides referrals to pro bono or low-cost attorneys in family law cases including divorce, alimony, custody, visitation, domestic violence, guardianship and conservatorship. Will handle Russian-speaking clients.

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT
OF THE BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION
29 Temple Place, Suite 300
Boston, MA 02111
(617) 423-0648

Assigns private volunteer attorneys to represent indigent individuals in divorces, child custody cases, wills and uncontested guardianships of minors and adults.

Serves Braintree, Brookline, Canton, Cohasset, Holbrook, Milton, Quincy, Randolph and Weymouth. Family Law Project for Battered Women

Women's Bar Association and Women's Bar Foundation

Provides free legal services to battered women involved in contested domestic relations cases. Applicants must have been denied eligibility by legal services organizations to qualify.

Call Women's Bar Foundation at (617) 589-9420

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Private, volunteer attorney offers brief consultation at the courthouse providing basic legal advice to qualifying individuals on a walk-in basis. Attorney does not accompany individual into the courtroom. Attorney may not be available every day. For availability, call (781) 830-1200 or ask at the Registry of Probate.